

FLOWER COLOR OF THE AMERICAN DIERVILLAS.—The change in flower color which follows pollination in the Asiatic species of *Diervilla* § *Weigela* is often cited as a striking case of adaptation to pollination by bees. In all but one of the *Weigelas* the flowers are at first white or merely roseate-tinged, but after pollination they change quickly to deep rose or carmine, in which condition they remain fresh for some length of time, serving to attract bees to the shrub. Only the white flowers are visited for honey, however. Among the American species of *Diervilla*, which belong to a section of the genus distinguished from § *Weigela* by the smaller yellow flowers, the corresponding phenomenon seems to have been recorded only by Mrs. Dana. In "How to know the Wild Flowers" she says of *Diervilla Lonicera* Mill. (*D. trifida* Moench): "The lower lobe of the corolla is crested and more deeply colored than the others, thus advising the bee of secreted treasure. . . . When the blossom has been despoiled and at the same time fertilized, for the nectar-seeking bee has probably deposited some pollen upon its pistil, the color of the corolla changes from a pale to a deep yellow. . . ." Other observers have noticed that the flower of this species is not always "light yellow" or "honey yellow," but have apparently ascribed the differences to specific variability.

In shady woods the change in *Diervilla Lonicera* is not very noticeable, but in dry localities where the growth of the shrub is stunted, as for example on Mt. Chocorua, N. H., and on the summit of Great Blue Hill, near Boston, the flowers become deep scarlet. The lip is the first part to show signs of change and it remains always of a deeper hue than the rest of the corolla, becoming, on Blue Hill, almost maroon. At the Arnold Arboretum, where all the American *Diervillas* are cultivated under moderate conditions of shade and moisture, fresh flowers were compared with Ridgway's standard color scale and the following changes noted. In *D. Lonicera* Mill. the corolla is at first citron yellow. The lip changes to poppy red and the other lobes to scarlet. In *D. rivularis* Gattinger the change is from yellow to a lightly suffused, dull poppy red, most intense on the lip. In *D. sessilifolia* Buckley the citron yellow corolla changes to cadmium yellow except on the lip, which becomes orange. *D. splendens* Carrière, which Mr. Rehder is inclined to consider a hybrid between *D. Lonicera* and *D. sessilifolia*, changes from canary yellow to pale orange, with an orange lip. In this character, as well as in its time

of flowering, it resembles the latter of its supposed parents.— H. H. BARTLETT, Gray Herbarium.

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MACLURA POMIFERA (RAF.) SCHNEIDER.— In the May issue of RHODORA (ix. 91) I noted the fact that the Osage Orange, a common hedge plant of the Middle West and an occasional escape from cultivation in New England, should according to the Vienna Rules of nomenclature bear the name *Maclura pomifera*. I was not aware at the time that this particular combination had been used in print. Through the kindness of Mr. Alfred Rehder of the Arnold Arboretum I learn that the binomial *Maclura pomifera* was published about a year earlier in a short supplement of the first volume of C. K. Schneider's detailed *Illustriertes Handbuch der Lauholzkunde* (i. 806). — B. L. ROBINSON, Gray Herbarium.

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